

## DHS Daily Digest

The DHS Daily Digest provides summaries of the Department's latest news coverage. The DHS Daily Digest is released via email and contains hypertext links to the listed documents.

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### NEWS COVERAGE

#### Local News

**Area agency on aging seeking advisory board members** - *The Augusta Chronicle* ✓

**Legislative update-** *The Charlton County Herald* ✓

**Polk County hosts foster parents for training conference-** *The Polk Standard Journal* ✓

Proactive: ✓

Passive: ✓ ✓

Reactive:

Positive: 0

Negative: 0

Neutral: 3

#### National News

Proactive:

Passive:

Reactive:

Positive: 0

Negative: 0

Neutral: 0

#### Local News

**Area agency on aging seeking advisory board members** - *The Augusta Chronicle*  
By Sandy Hodson

The CSRA Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging is seeking people interested in planning for the needs of older adults in a 14-county area to serve as advisory council members.

Council members assist in determining priorities, identifying problem areas and needs, and defining agency goals. The agency has openings in Burke, Columbia, Glascock,

Jefferson, Jenkins, Richmond, Washington and Wilkes counties. The council meets in March, June, September and December.

Potential council members should be over the age of 60 or disabled. Contact Jeanette Cummings at [jcummings@csrarc.ga.gov](mailto:jcumplings@csrarc.ga.gov), (706) 210-2013 or (888) 922-4464.

**Legislative update-** *The Charlton County Herald*

By John Corbett

Week 10 (Days 33-35) is over and the Georgia General Assembly has 5 legislative days left of the 2018 Legislative Session. In the weeks ahead, we will work diligently to advance legislation that fosters economic growth and prosperity.

#### House Passed 2019 Budget

The Georgia General Assembly is constitutionally mandated to pass a balanced budget every year.

The \$26 billion dollar budget passed last week in the State House prioritizes education, health care, economic development, and state infrastructure projects.

Here are a few highlights:

- \$361.7 million for the Teachers Retirement System.
- \$111 million for the University System of Georgia.
- \$5.5 million for the Technical College System of Georgia.
- \$68 million for HOPE and Zell Miller private scholarships.
- \$16.9 million for a 4.3 percent provider rate increase for nursing homes
- \$2 million to fund study into Georgia' infant mortality rate.
- \$2.2 million for a Department of Human Services care coordinator positions to improve mental health outcomes for foster care children.
- \$1.83 billion in motor fuel funds to continue transportation construction and maintenance projects across our state.
- \$35 million in infrastructure bonds to continue the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project (SHEP).

The 2019 budget is now under consideration in the State Senate.

Georgia Police Chiefs Day

This week, we paused to honor law enforcement leaders from around the state during Chiefs Day at the Capitol. Thanks to our brave men and women in uniform, our communities are safe, opportunity abounds, and the future is bright!

### Under the Gold Dome

We were honored to welcome Okefenokee Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) superintendents to the State Capitol this week. We appreciate what these hardworking men and women do to enhance educational outcomes in our community.

### Sine Die

On January 8th, we kicked off the 2018 Legislative Session.

Our 40-day session ends on March 29th. As this is the final day for bills to receive final approval before being sent to the Governor, the final two weeks will be the busiest yet.

As always, it is an honor to represent you and District 174 in the Georgia General Assembly. If you ever need any assistance, please call (404.656.0287), e-mail (John.Corbett@House.Ga.Gov) or engage on Facebook.

### **Polk County hosts foster parents for training conference-** *The Polk Standard Journal*

Polk County Foster Parent Association provided Region 3 foster parents six free hours of mini-conference training on Saturday, March 10 at One Door Polk in Cedartown.

Juvenile Court Judge Mark Murphy was joined by Josette Franklin, Education Support Monitor for state DFCS, DFCS' Robin Forston, and Dwayne Yarbrough, training coordinator for Polk County Foster Parent Association were presenters for the training.

35 foster parents from across Region 3 which includes Polk County completed the training in Cedartown, with the thanks of McDonald's, Pizza Hut, and Little Caesar's Pizza who provided food for the event.